

# ARMY AND NAVY CHRONICLE.

VOL. I.

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No. 52.

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**KEY WEST.**—The disastrous effects of the September hurricanes along the coast of Florida, with its numerous keys, shoals and rocks, cannot fail to turn the immediate attention of our Government to that most important part of our country. A prompt attention is called for by considerations and exigencies of the most imperious character. The vast amount of commerce which passes this coast, (it being estimated that three thousand *American ships*, carrying one hundred millions of property, and thirty thousand lives, annually pass it;) all of which is subjected to the greatest perils, from the inefficiency of lights along the coast, should exact some speedy action on the part of Congress. It is well known that the Gulf stream, setting along the Southern coast of Florida, has so worn away the land as to form the numerous islands, shoals and rocks, which are there found, and between which and the main land there is a navigable channel, which, even in favorable weather, and under the light of day, requires dexterous pilotage; but which, in the *absence of light*, proves but a feeble protection against constant disasters and shipwrecks. The late September gale has left the coast literally strewn with wrecks, and at Key West alone, says an eye-witness at the spot, "there is property liable to salvage, amounting to nearly two hundred thousand dollars, besides an immense amount wholly destroyed."

The great difficulty of the navigation to which we have alluded, arises from the eddies which set towards the shore from the Gulf Stream, and the numerous counter currents setting upon the different keys, upon which vessels, either by the injudicious placing of lights, or by none at all, are so frequently stranded, and thus property and lives to an almost incalculable amount continually sacrificed. We believe that some arrangement has been made by the Government with England, in regard to the erection of light houses on the Bahamas, and that here and there one is erected, proving as we are told, rather as a "decoy to lure vessels to destruction," than as *ueriring or certain guides to safety*. All that has been done hitherto for the protection of our commerce along this most valuable thoroughfare, bespeaks only unpardonable neglect on the part of the Government—and which becomes additionally reprehensible, when the subject has been so often presented to it, in every variety of light, and by individuals whose opportunities and avocations have so well enabled them to enforce reasons, entitled to the consideration of the country.

We have none of the public documents at hand

from which we would gladly make extracts from the published reports of Commodore Porter, who it is well known furnished the Government with the most important communications respecting this subject.

There are other reasons to be enforced, why the southernmost part of the Florida coast, and most particularly Key West, its southernmost point, should be in every necessary particular well protected. If we once cast our eyes at the location of this important point, we cannot but be convinced of the necessity of such protection. Commodore Porter, to whom we have alluded, is well known to have considered Key West the best harbor in the United States, south of the Chesapeake, for a naval station, and the most important to be defended, for the protection of our commerce in the Gulf of Mexico. And we venture to say, that no man is more competent to give a correct opinion on the subject—as, independently of his accurate knowledge of the science as connected with his profession, he had seven years' experience on that coast, as commander of the United States naval force on the West India station, and subsequently as commander of the Mexican naval force, fitted out in 1827 or 8. We have also before us the record of a communication from Commodore Rodgers to the Secretary of the Navy, from which, in reference to Key West, we extract the following:

"As an auxiliary, he says, to an extensive and permanent Southern naval depot (perhaps at Pensacola) such as a proper security for our commerce, and the permanent union of the States, seem to render indispensable, it will be found, I am induced to believe, that the stand in question will soon become an object worthy the serious attention and consideration of the Government.

"Nature has made it the advance post, from which to watch and guard our commerce passing to and from the Mississippi, while at the same time, its peculiar situation and the excellence of its harbour, point it out as the *most certain key to the commerce of Havana*, to that of the whole Gulf of Mexico, and to the returning trade of Jamaica, and I venture to predict that the first important naval contest, in which this country shall be engaged, will be in the neighbourhood of this very Island." Nothing can be more certain than that, in the event of a war with a nation possessing any naval force of consequence, the proper protection of Key West would be of incalculable value, as protecting our vast commerce in its transit through the Gulf of Mexico from capture and destruction—and for other purposes as suggested by our most experienced naval commanders.

It appears by no means improbable that we shall sooner or later be involved in a war with some of the foreign powers. England has ever regarded with extreme jealousy the growing advancement of our country, and particularly in its extension over any part of the Mexican Territory, as the possession of Texas for instance, would, they deem, give us complete control, over the whole shore situated along the Gulf of Mexico.

The possession of the Floridas by the United States was at the time, and continues to be, a source of uneasiness to England, as growing out of the safety of the Islands in the West-Indies belonging to it. France also has her West-India possessions, and in case of a by no means impossible rupture with that Government, she will not neglect her insular interests, nor fail of concentrating a large naval force in the Gulf of Mexico, to annoy our commerce, and seek in that quarter some debarkation of her troops, to penetrate into the interior.

As England then may consider herself, as identified in resistance with Mexico, in any efforts that may be made for the possession of Texas by this country, it is not altogether improbable that disturbances of a hostile nature between the two countries may yet spring from Mexican relations with that Government. As to France, it needs but little foresight, to see the gatherings of a storm that we fear, will soon rage between it and the United States.

Sufficiently strong however are the reasons enforced

upon our Government, to induce an immediate attention to the Florida Cape. And longer neglect on its part, will betray a neglect of those vital interests of the country, which should ever receive its helping aid, and which, as in this instance, neglected, must prove still further disastrous consequences to the country at large.—*N. O. Commercial Bulletin, Nov. 20.*

## ANECDOTES OF ANIMALS.

BY CAPTAIN MARRYAT.

I could cite a hundred instances, which would prove that animals have invention independent of the instinct handed down from generation to generation. I will however content myself with one instance of superior invention of the elephant, which occurred at Ceylon. Parties were employed felling timber in the forest of Candia, and this timber, after having been squared, was dragged to the depot by a large party of elephants, who, with their keepers, were sent there for that purpose. The work was so tedious, that a large truck was made capable of receiving a very heavy load of timber, which might be transported at once. This truck was dragged out by the elephants, and it was to be loaded. I should observe, that when elephants work in a body, there is always one who, as if by common consent, takes the lead, and directs the others, who never refuse to obey him. The keepers of the elephants and the natives gave their orders, and the elephants obeyed; but the timber was so large, and the truck so high on its wheels, that the elephants could not put the timber in the truck according to the directions given by the men. After several attempts, the natives gave up the point, and retiring to the side of the road, as usual, squatted down, and held a consultation. In the mean time, the elephant who took the lead summoned the others, made them drag two of the squared pieces to the side of the truck, laid them at right angles with it lifting one end of each on the truck and leaning the other on the ground, thus forming the inclined plane. The timber was then brought by the elephants without any interference on the part of the keepers or natives who remained looking on, was pushed by the elephants with their foreheads up the inclined plane and the truck was loaded. Here then is an instance in which inventive instinct—if that term may be used—was superior to the humbler reasoning powers.

That animals have the power of memory, as well as man, admits of no dispute. In elephants, horses, and dogs, we have hourly instances of it; but it descends much lower down. The piping bulfinch, who has been taught to whistle two or three waltzes in perfect concord, must have a good memory, or he would soon forget his notes. To detail instances of memory, would therefore be superfluous; but, as it does occur to me now, I must give an amusing instance how the memory of a good thrashing overcame the ruling passion of a monkey, which is gluttony, the first and only instance that I ever saw it conquered.

I had on board of a ship which I commanded, a very large Cape baboon, who was a pet of mine, and also a little boy who was a son of mine. When the baboon sat down on his bams, he was about as tall as the boy was when he walked. The boy having a tolerable appetite received about noon a considerable slice of bread and butter, to keep him quiet till dinner time. I was on one of the caronades, busy with the sun's lower limb, bringing it in contact with the horizon, when the boy's lower limbs brought him in contact with the baboon, who having, as well as the boy, a strong predilection for bread and butter, and a stronger arm to take it withal, thought proper to help himself to that to which the boy had been already helped. In short he snatched the bread and butter, and made short work of it, for it was in his pouch in a moment. Upon which the boy set up a yell, which attracted my notice to this violation of the articles of war, to which the baboon was equally amenable as any other person in the ship; for it expressly stated in the preamble of every separate article: "all who are in or belonging to." Whereupon I jumped off the caronade, and by way of assisting his digestion, I served out to the baboon, monkey's

allowance, which is more kicks than halfpence. The master reported that the heavens intimated that it was twelve o'clock, and with all the humility of a captain of a man-of-war, I ordered him to 'make it so,' whereupon it was made, and so passed that day. I do not remember how many days it was afterwards, that I was on the carrouade as usual, about the same time, and all parties were precisely in the same situations, the master by my side, the baboon under the booms, and the boy walking out of the cabin with his bread and butter.—As before, he again passed the baboon, who again snatched the bread and butter from the boy, who again set up a squall, which again attracted my attention. I looked round, and the baboon caught my eye, which told him plainly that he'd soon catch what was not "at all my eye;" and he proved that he thought so, for he actually put the bread and butter back into the boy's hands. It was the only instance of which I ever knew or heard, of a monkey being capable of self-denial when his stomach was concerned, and I record it accordingly. (Par parenthese:) it is well known that monkeys will take the small pox, measles, and I believe the scarlet fever; but this fellow, when the ship's company were dying of the cholera, took that disease, went through all its gradations, and died apparently in great agony.—*Metropolitan for October.*

#### AN OLD SOLDIER'S STORY.

A few days since, I stopped at the public house in Colrain, and while my horse was eating, I sat down in the bar room, and heard a sensible old man relate the substance of the enclosed account:

"During the revolutionary war, there was a point of land on the Jersey side of the Hudson, and not far distant from New York, which was the scene of a bloody conflict. There were about three hundred acres next to the river, from which the wood and timber had been cleared off; back of this, was a heavy forest. On this cleared point, a large number of fat cattle, destined to supply the American army, were placed. Four or five miles distant, in New Jersey, there were three thousand light infantry, under the command of Lafayette. I was one of that detachment. Our business was to see that the cattle were not taken from the point by the enemy. One morning, intelligence was brought into camp, that several vessels had approached the point, and that a large body of British soldiers were landing. My regiment was ordered to march immediately for the point. Rufus Putnam, a nephew of the old General, was our Colonel. He was well stocked with the Putnam mettle. He was a brave officer. I could never discern that he was not just as cool and self-possessed when going into battle as when sitting in his tent. We made a hurried march, and upon approaching the edge of the woods, the Colonel ordered the Adjutant to go forward and see where the troops were, and what was their number. The Adjutant soon returned, and reported they were forming upon the shore in three columns, and he should think the columns contained about one thousand each. 'Then,' said the Colonel, ride back to the camp as quickly as possible, and tell Lafayette to come on.' When the Adjutant had gone, Col. Putnam rode up to my Captain, who was Daniel Shays, of insurrection memory, and said he, 'well, Captain Shays, shall we be playing with them until the General comes.' 'That must be as you please,' replied Capt. Shays. Orders were soon given to advance to the open land upon the point. We now stood face to face with our foes. Firing very soon commenced. Cannon from the shipping in the river poured forth their volleys; and small arms did fatal execution. Col. Putnam rode back and forth in front of the regiment, as calm as a man at home, though the balls were whistling past in every direction. We worked very fast, and for one regiment made a great noise. The corporal at my right hand received a ball through the body, and fell dying. I was young, and a dying man at my feet, bleeding and gasping, might perhaps cause my color to fade a little. Captain Shays stepped forward, 'George,' said he, 'never mind it; I will take his place;' and he was as good as his word, he took the corporal's gun and used it. Shays was the best Captain I ever served under. He was bold and kind. I will give him his due, though he has done unworthily since we stood shoulder to shoulder in that day of peril. I was loading my gun the twenty-second time, when General Lafayette, with the main body of the

light infantry, issued from the wood. Never shall I forget the feeling of that moment. Wellington was hardly more pleased to see Blucher in the battle of Waterloo, than we were to see our brothers in arms. The main body formed at once, upon our left. Lafayette rode forward, (an elegant officer—and never did he fill my eyes so entirely as at that moment;) though a striking appearance, in action he was a man—and had Cornwallis seen him as we then saw him, he would not have called him the 'boy.' As he approached, 'Col. Putnam,' said he, 'how dared you fire before I arrived?' 'Oh,' said the Colonel, 'I thought I would be playing with them a little.' Lafayette at that moment seemed full of energy and fire—turning towards the line, and with a loud and distinct voice, marked by his French accent—said he, 'We fire no more—the whole line—charge bayonet—rush onward and drive them where the devil drove the hogs.' The effect of his presence and his words was astonishing; every heart beat quick and full. We did rush on, and such a scene of carnage my eyes never saw. At first the British force charged to meet us, but they could not stand against us, and fled from the shore; we followed them, and drove them into the water; of the three thousand, about fifteen hundred got aboard the vessels. The rest were slain, and most of them at the point of the bayonet. I have described to you the most painfully interesting and horrid scene which I had ever witnessed. I never enjoyed killing men, I fought because I thought it to be my duty.—*Greenfield Mass. Mercury.*

*From the Philadelphia Saturday Courier.*  
I send you, Messrs. Editors, a few more anecdotes, drawn from my files.

#### MILITARY VANITY.

An officer of the Revolutionary army, when Charleton was invested by the enemy in 1780, the besiegers (in order to maintain a communication with the country,) established a post opposite the town, at Hobcaw, and gave the command of it to Col. Maloniedie, a Frenchman of uncommon vanity, greedy of fame, and flattered with the hope of obtaining it on easy terms; he was extremely inquisitive after the state and progress of his reputation in the town. He never failed to put this question to every one visiting his post: "Pray, Sair, vat do de peopl tink of me? Mons. de Brittagny, serving at that time in Charleston—and a wit—having paid this commandant a visit, was saluted with the usual question, "Pray, Sair, vat do de peopl tink of me?" De Brittagny drily replied, "People are divided: the men think you an old woman; but the women call you an old man."

**MAJOR GENERAL PUTNAM AND MAJOR SMALL.**—These two officers (though now opposed as foes,) had served together in the British army, in that war which gave Canada to Britain, and in the course of it had contracted a friendship for each other. In the hottest part of the battle of Bunker's (rather Breed's) Hill, Putnam observed some of his unerring marksmen taking a deadly aim at Small,\* then at the head of the British forces. But, by an instinctive impulse, Putnam turned aside their guns, and thus saved the life of his friend. Such magnanimity could not but excite the finest emotions.

About a week after the battle, while Putnam was posted on Prospect Hill, a person in a horse cart, bearing a flag of truce, brought to the American lines a hamper of porter, addressed to General Putnam, from his friend, Major Small. This led to a conversation between the General and certain officers within his marquee, when he observed, that "Small remembered the service I had done him, for," said he, "I saved his life by diverting a few shots that would certainly have killed him; two or three marksmen were in the act of levelling their pieces over the breastwork north of the redoubt, when I came up from the left. There recognising Small, I stopped the fire and he escaped: let us drink health and long life to him. He is our enemy to be sure; but he is a generous hearted fellow, and I could not bear to see him killed in cold blood."

\* I remember the Major well. He was a very lusty man, and consequently a prominent mark.—ED. SAT. COUN.

The day before Washington joined the army at Cambridge, Putnam received a note from Small, expressive of the gratitude he felt, and the lasting obligation I had imposed upon him; and stating his wish for an interview on the lines, the Sunday following, that he might pour out the feelings of his heart in person.—The note was submitted to Washington, who advised a compliance. They met under the shade of an oak, and after a friendly conversation of half an hour, in which the transactions of by-gone days were recalled, Small said, "You must know, Putnam, that you can never succeed in this daring opposition to his majesty's government. You have seen enough of British valour, and know enough of the strength and power of Britain, to convince you that this rebellion will be crushed, and what then will become of you? I know you to be a brave man, and you may fall ingloriously as a rebel; but so sure as you survive, a halter will be provided for your neck! Your services in Canada with our army are remembered, and we respect you. The government is desirous of conferring on you a reward, too long and too unjustly withheld; and I come now with full authority from General Gage to assure you, that if you will leave the service in which you are engaged, and from which the nature of it, must be transient, and join his majesty's standard, under which you have so often fought, you shall have the same rank in the British army, as you nominally hold over a mere rabble." Here taking the general by the hand and laying the other on his shoulder, he continued, "Putnam, I know you will fight, but who have you to support you? I had terrible proof of your daring on yonder height, and I owe my life to your generosity; let me, then, never meet you again as an enemy." Putnam replied: "You know, Small, we had conversations on this subject only a short time before hostilities commenced, and how fully I then stated to you my perfect conviction of the justice of our cause, and my firm determination to stand or fall with my country. This determination remains unchanged. I know, indeed, the power of Britain, and the strength of her arm; but there is a higher power, and a stronger arm, which will sustain me, and save my country. While, therefore, I shall continue to love you individually, as a friend—if you mingle with those who come to trample on the rights which God and Nature gave, under pretence of 'crushing rebellion,' I must and will meet you as an enemy."

This conversation was immediately reported to Washington, who, with his accustomed prudence, remarked, that considering the jealousy of the times, it had better not be made public.

**ANECDOCE AT THE BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS.**—A daring Tennessean, with a blanket tied round him, and a hat with a brim of enormous breadth, who seemed to be fighting "on his own hook," disdaining to raise his rifle over the bank of earth and fire, in safety to his person, like his more wary fellow soldiers, chose to spring, every time he fired, upon the breastwork; where, balancing himself, he would bring his rifle to his cheek, throw back his broad brim, take sight and fire, while the enemy were advancing to the attack, as deliberately as though shooting at a herd of deer; then leaping down on the inner side, he would reload, mount the works, cock his beaver, take aim, and crack again. "This he did," said an English officer, who was taken prisoner by him, and who laughingly related it as a good anecdote to Captain D\*\*\*\*\*, my informant above alluded to—"five times in rapid succession, as I advanced at the head of my company, and though the grape whistled through the air over our heads, for the life of me I could not help smirking at his grotesque demi-savage, demi-quaker figure, as he threw back the broad flap of his castor to obtain a fair sight—deliberately raised his rifle—shut his left eye, and blazed away at us. I verily believe he brought down one of my men every shot."

As the British resolutely advanced, though columns fell like the tall grain before the sickle at the fire of the Americans, the same officer approached at the head of his brave grenadiers amid the rolling fire of musketry from the lines of his unseen foes, undaunted and untouched. "Advance, my men!" he shouted as he reached the edge of the fosse—"follow me!" and sword in hand he leaped the ditch, and turning amidst the roar and flame of a hundred muskets to encourage his men, beheld to his surprise but a single man of his company



Johnson, of the royal navy, has arrived at Dublin from England, commissioned by the Lords of the admiralty to institute a course of experiments for the purpose of determining the amount and intensity of local magnetic attraction, and correct the irregularities of the compass on board vessels constructed of iron; and to ascertain and report on the efficiency of such vessels for the public service. The lords of the admiralty have wisely and liberally undertaken this investigation, so interesting in a scientific point of view, and so important to what may hereafter be the great bulwark of the nation—the superiority of a fleet of British iron steam-ships—the iron walls of Old England! The design of the admiralty was no sooner known, than the City of Dublin Company, in the most liberal manner, expressed their willingness to afford every facility towards the accomplishment of the object in question. They offered to allow what ever officer might be appointed to the service, the opportunity of pursuing his investigation on board their two iron-built steamers, the *Lansdowne* and the *Garryowen*, both on the river Shannon; and to place them under their orders for that purpose. The offer was accepted, and Captain Johnson, an officer of superior merit, and well qualified for this delicate and difficult enquiry, has been appointed. Several of the scientific body in Liverpool propose going down to Limerick to witness the progress of the investigation. Captain Johnson proceeds this day to Limerick in furtherance of his commission, and we look with no little anxiety to the result.—*Dublin Evening Post.*

## WASHINGTON;

THURSDAY, ..... DECEMBER 24, 1835.

**A GRAVE AFFAIR.**—While the U. S. frigate *Constellation* was lying in the harbor of Norfolk, preparing to sail for the West Indies, the Sheriff of Norfolk County went on board with a writ to arrest Midshipman Turner for a debt; but being prevented from doing so, he made a formal complaint to the Governor of Virginia, who transmitted a copy thereof to the President of the United States. The President referred the matter to the Secretary of the Navy, who informed the Governor of Virginia, that he should "without delay call upon Commodore Dallas for an explanation of his interference in this case, and for the manner of his treatment of the sheriff intrusted with the service of the process." The Governor has taken umbrage at the whole transaction, and thought it of sufficient moment to refer to the Legislature, in his annual message, at the recent opening of the session. An extract from the message, and the correspondence referred to, will be found in another column.

The substance of the story, as we have heard it related, is this: The sheriff went on board the frigate, made his business known, and was referred to Commodore Dallas, who was at the time on the quarter deck. Commodore D. replied, that no officer should leave the port in debt, and if the account was found to be correct, it should be paid; that he presumed the only object of the sheriff was to secure the payment, and that being guaranteed, there would be no necessity for further proceedings. The sheriff insisting, however, upon enforcing the writ, the Commodore invited him below into his cabin, where he would show him the law under which he felt bound not to suffer an officer under his command to be dragged through the street as a criminal, and repeated the assurance that the debt should be paid. The sheriff was not satisfied with this, but enquired in a loud tone whether he was to be prevented by force from executing his duty as a public officer. Commodore Dallas, considering the language used to be indecorous and improper, ordered the Sheriff to be put out of the ship. This is one side of the story, and may not be

strictly correct. The sheriff gives a different version, and in accordance with that just maxim, "*audi alteram partem*," public opinion should not condemn until both sides are heard. As represented by others, the conduct of the sheriff appears to have been highly offensive; and if so, it no doubt led to his unceremonious ejection from the ship.

Upon enquiry, midshipman Turner denied that he owed the complainant, or plaintiff in the case, anything; but said that he had purchased a pair of boots of him, which he paid for at the time.

We do not believe that Commodore Dallas is capable of treating any one with disrespect, or indignity; but it seems strange, that a state officer, or any other individual, should be allowed to go on board a vessel of war, arrest, bully, or brow-beat, any or all, officers and crew, interrupt the duty, set discipline, order, and subordination at defiance; and in short, act his own pleasure, and be allowed to depart as he came.

We learn by letters from Chicago, that an express had arrived at Fort Dearborn, with information that the detachment of the U. S. infantry, despatched from that post under command of Captain Baxley, in pursuit of the Indians who attacked Messrs. Clyman and Burnett, on Rock River, had apprehended one of the murderers, and was in close pursuit of the other, near Winnebago Lake. The prisoner (both, if taken) would be carried to Fort Howard, Green Bay. The troops met with no resistance from the Indians, with whom the murderers took refuge; the latter belong to a band or family of mixed blood, outlawed renegades, moving backwards and forwards between the Potawatamie, Winnebago, and Menominee tribes.

It is believed that the frigate *United States*, now at New-York, will be fitted for sea early in the spring, and placed under the command of Captain THOMAS APCATESBY JONES, for a cruise in the Pacific.

The city of New-York has recently suffered a heavy calamity—one, from which, with all her enterprise and wealth, she will probably not entirely recover, for a long time. The most destructive fire, that ever raged any portion of our fair country—and perhaps exceeded only by the great fire in London, in 1666, and by the conflagration of Moscow, in 1812—has desolated a large portion of the business part of the city. The fire commenced in Merchants' Street, and was not arrested until it had destroyed between six and seven hundred buildings, and property variously estimated at from ten to thirty millions of dollars. The Merchants' Exchange, Wall Street, in which was a handsome statue of ALEXANDER HAMILTON, one or two churches, and the printing offices of all but two of the daily papers, are among the buildings destroyed.

The services of our agent in Philadelphia, Mr. H. S. CRABBE, have been rendered without any compensation, which he repeatedly declined accepting; he, however, finds that his duties in the Navy Yard, are too arduous to allow him time for other purposes, and he has asked to be relieved from the agency, at the close of the year. We cannot part from Mr. Crabbe, without expressing publicly our sense of obligation for his kindness and uniformly prompt attention to our interests.

We have made an arrangement with Mr. H. M. PREVOST, at the Navy Yard, Philadelphia, who will act as agent for this paper from and after the 1st January next.

Several others of our agents also render their services gratuitously, for which our warmest thanks are due.

Subscribers who wish to preserve their file of the Chronicle complete can be supplied with any of the back numbers, (without charge) except Nos. 1, and 40 to 45. These numbers are nearly exhausted. Orders must be post paid.

We close, with the present number, the first year of our labors as editor of the Army and Navy Chronicle. For the encouragement which we have received, we feel duly grateful, and it shall stimulate us to renewed exertions to deserve the support and confidence of the services, to whose interests our publication is devoted, and of the public at large.

The subscription list, although at first small, has been steadily increasing, and now amounts to about nine hundred. When to these is added the present subscription list of the Military and Naval Magazine, (more than seven hundred) we shall have a very good one, with which to commence our new series.

The present year beginning and terminating with Thursday, (our day of publication) there would consequently be fifty-three papers in the course of the year, if one were to be issued next week. Instead of a paper, we shall publish a title-page and index, for the convenience of those who intend to bind the Chronicle.

### ARRIVALS AT WASHINGTON.

Dec. 16—Assistant Sur. G. F. Turner, at Fuller's,  
Lt. B. Poole, 3rd Art'y, do  
Lt. W. Hood, 4th Inf'y, at Lt. Thomas', G. T.  
17—Capt. W. A. Eliason, Eng'rs, at Fuller's.  
Major N. Young, 7th Inf'y, do  
Assist. Sur. R. Archer, do

### LETTERS ADVERTISED, Washington, Dec. 15, 1835.

ARMY.	NAVY.
Dr. Geo. R. Clarke,	Lt. S. L. Breese,
Lt. M. M. Clark,	2 Lt. W. J. Belt,
Capt. A. Canfield,	Lt. Francis Barry,
Dr. S. G. I. DeCamp,	Sam'l. W. Downing,
Lt. J. E. Johnston,	Lt. John Gwinn,
Major A. Mackay,	Lt. L. M. Goldsborough,
Major B. K. Pierce,	2 Robert E. Hoe,
	Lt. E. W. Moore,
	John K. Mitchell,
	Lt. Wm. Noland.

### RECEIPTS BY MAIL, &c.

#### ON ACCOUNT OF THE ARMY AND NAVY CHRONICLE.

[From the 16th to the 22d Dec. inclusive.]

Col. H. Whiting, army,	30 June, 1837, \$5 00
S. Whiting, Lancaster, Mass.	31 Dec. 1836, 5 00
Lieut. R. H. Morris, navy,	" " " 5 00
Capt. Otis Wheeler, 3d inf.	30 June " 2 50
Lieut. W. S. Henry, U. S. A.	" " " 2 50
Lieut. L. Smith, Fort Jesup	" " " 2 50
Mid. R. M. Harvey, navy,	" " " 2 50
Lieut. S. F. Dupont, do.	31 Dec. " 5 00

### MILITARY AND NAVAL MAGAZINE.

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December 10—tf.

### BOOK AND JOB PRINTING

NEATLY EXECUTED

AT THIS OFFICE.

## Communications.

No. 1.

## THE ARMY—DOUBLE RATIONS.

It not unfrequently happens that the benevolent intentions of legislators are defeated when the law, acting upon an hypothesis, by presupposing the existence of circumstances, (which may or may not exist) and in consideration thereof, is made to operate beneficially; for the circumstances on which the benefit is made dependent will never in such cases be suffered to die so long as construction can give them vitality. Should the law, for instance, allow the collector of the customs at New-York \$500 per year, in consideration of his supervision of the revenue vessels of the Government, would he not *constructively* exercise that supervision and actually receive the compensation therefor, although by usage, or the necessity of the case, it might become the duty—the *extra and unpaid for* (as to him) duty of another? Certainly he would. Or should the Governor of Pennsylvania be entitled by law to \$1,000 per year in consideration of expenses attending his supposed visits to the various works of internal improvement in the State, is it likely he would forfeit that sum, when a bare compliance with the letter of the law, by a superficial glance at the several roads and canals, at a cost of \$300, would secure it to him? We think not. It is in such cases, and the instances are numerous, that the *spirit* of the law is disregarded and that legislative liberality is not met by corresponding individual integrity. Payments are made for services either not rendered at all, or performed by others than those upon whom the public bounty is bestowed. A case of this sort we propose to notice. In 1802, a law was passed by Congress, authorising the President to grant additional rations to the commanders of separate military posts. The officers of the army of that day, who are yet in service, can testify as to the object of that enactment. It was to remunerate commanders of separate posts for expenses supposed to be incident to such command, and which it was thought they could not avoid, if they would; expenses growing out of the entertainment of those, whose official duties might take them to military posts, or of visitors, whose personal curiosity might lead them thither. It was a provision to no particular grade, was intended for no peculiar responsibility, was a reward for no special public services. It was simply a reimbursement of supposed expenses. But, the object of the law has never been disputed. Indeed, within a comparatively late period the object we have ascribed to it, has been successfully pleaded in order to extend its benefits to a class of officers, upon whom we have strong doubts whether the provisions of it are legally, or even equitably, conferred. We allude to the Chiefs of the Staff Departments at Washington.\* Viewing then the act in question in the light in which we have exhibited it, let us look at its practical effects. And here we will remark, although it is not the point to which we wish to invite particular attention, that this law, or rather the present application of it, often defeats its own object, even in cases where the officer, regarding it in its *quid pro quo* character, meets the contingency on which its benefits depend. By virtue of this law, and on the order of the President, *double* rations are allowed to the commanders of separate posts—that is, the officer in command is entitled to twice the number of rations of his own particular grade. This system must presuppose that the expenses attending command, are always in proportion to the grade of the officer commanding. This, we think, is an error, and that the expenses are rather determined by the strength or the importance of the command itself.† A Bri-

\* We are aware that they have high authority for constraining their *Bureaus* into *separate Posts*. It is urged, they have separate command or jurisdiction. So has every Quarter Master and every recruiting officer within his sphere of action.

† The first law, making special provision for commanders of separate posts, was approved, March 3, 1797, wherein they were “allowed twice the number of rations to which they would otherwise be entitled.” This provision underwent a modification subsequently, by a law, approved March 16, 1802—the one now in force upon the subject—by which it is worthy of remark, the principle we contend for, is pointedly introduced and maintained. The law of 1797, allowed *double* rations, that of 1802 authorises “such *additional* rations as the President of the U. States shall,

gadier General’s command, it is true, might cause more expense to its chief than a captain’s guard or company would to him; but the occasion for expenses would be the same in each case, although a Colonel should command the Brigade, or a Lieutenant the company. So would an arsenal of construction, like that of Pittsburgh or Watervliet, have as many visitors creating expense to its temporary commander, of the grade of captain, as it would when under the control of its habitual commander, a Lieutenant Colonel. So also, its superior importance would bring to its gates, and to its commander’s table, although he should be a Lieutenant, more guests, than would visit within the same period, a mere Ordnance depot, like that of Pikesville, even although it should be commanded, as it once was, by a Lieut. Colonel. We have in memory a post, the temporary commander of which, during the last summer, drew but double the rations of a Major, while those of a Brigadier General were forfeited to government, owing to the absence of the permanent commander, of the latter grade. Now, the occasions for expenditure were not decreased by this temporary change, and therefore the allowance of double rations was either too great in the one case, or too small in the other; if the latter, then the spectacle is presented of the treasury appropriating to itself money at the cost of a subordinate officer of the government. It will probably be urged, that it is not expected that a Major should entertain in the style of a Brigadier General. But Congress did not intend to provide for *style*. The law contemplated a mere provision for *unavoidable expenses*. Cases of the kind we have just mentioned, are continually occurring, showing the utmost incongruity between the object of the law, and its effects, under its present application. The remedy lies with the Executive, and should the law itself not be amended, we trust he will, at least, direct an application of it more equitable than the present one. But, we contend that the law requires amendment, and this is the point it is our main object to establish. We insist that the cause of it has been lost sight of, its spirit disregarded, and its justice perverted. We aver that commanders of separate posts (there are exceptions of course) have not met the expenses which the statute intended to cover, and that its provisions have operated as a bounty rather than a remuneration. In the first place, commanding officers are rarely troubled with official visits occasioning drafts upon their hospitality. The arrival of an Inspector General, once in two or three years, is an event to them, as well in domestic as a military point of view; and of the officers who serve under them, we do not fear the want of testimony to sustain us in asserting that few, very few, partake of their *additional rations*. As to such visitors as are led to a garrison for the gratification of ordinary curiosity, attaching undue importance, it may be, to commanders, they rather avoid than seek them; and if desirous of any information, ask it of other officers, upon whom in fact also generally devolve in such cases the hospitalities of the post. Most commanders too have the happiness to be husbands and fathers, and their families constitute insurmountable barriers to the inroads of strangers on their privacy. In a word, they regard their *additional rations* as unconditional emoluments, pledging them to no peculiar hospitality. It may be asked, upon whom then does devolve the trouble and expense of entertaining those, whose duties or curiosity carry them occasionally to military posts? Is the provision for such purposes unnecessary? We reply, that the object of the law is good, and that the expenses for which it intended to provide, are borne, in nine instances out of ten, by the *messes of single officers*, and hence it is, we aver, that the law in question operates unjustly, and that it ought to be amended to the end, that the benefits it now confers on one set of officers be appropriated to another. This position we will endeavour to sustain in our next number, which we propose to devote to the subject of *Officers’ messes*.

PIKE.

December, 1835.

from time to time, direct, having respect to the *special circumstances of each post*. The post then, and not the rank of the commander, the law requires shall determine the number of additional rations to be allowed. (Vide Cross’ military laws, p. 80 and 116.)

## THE MILITARY ACADEMY.

A great degree of excitement has recently existed throughout the country on the subject of the Military Academy. The character as well as the administration

of the institution, has been vilely misrepresented; and indeed, there is no institution in the United States with whose real character the community is so little acquainted. I have often been amused by the remarks of people, who thought their ideas on this subject to be correct; I have been surprised at hearing persons who had visited the Academy, make assertions respecting it which were wholly unfounded. It is this ignorance of its true merit, which has rendered the institution so unpopular. The first charge which is urged against it, is the favoritism which is said to be shown in the distribution of appointments. It is asserted that only the rich and influential can obtain appointments for their children! This, from my own knowledge, I can unqualifiedly pronounce to be false. That there are cadets from those classes of society is undoubtedly true; and it would be as little in accordance with the spirit of our institutions to exclude the rich, as the poor, from the benefits of a national school. It is said that the genius of our government is *equality*. How true this may be I do not pretend to say; but I well know that when a cadet enters the Military Academy, his *parentage* and his *wealth* are matters of the least consideration. All that can there influence his success depends solely upon himself. If he is industrious,—if his conduct is unexceptionable, he succeeds; and if not, the consequences be upon his own head! If there is one institution of any kind in the United States, which serves to divest those connected with it of sectional prejudice, that one is the Military Academy. It is a common idea, and a true one, that very few of those who enter the Military Academy ever graduate; and this very circumstance which has given it so many enemies, in fact bears ample testimony to its excellence. It is this which places it so far in advance of our Colleges as a scientific Institution. With them, any person who can defray the expenses of a residence at College, can receive all the honors which they can bestow. With the Military Academy the case is different. The Cadets, so far from being the supporters of the institution, are supported *by it*; and the consequence is, that the Academy and the Army are purged of all who are found wanting in industry or capacity.

The great obstacle to the popularity of the Academy, consists in the fact that large numbers of young men are yearly dismissed for deficiency. A great proportion of these have heretofore been from the *West*, and have carried back with them tales of *injustice* and *persecution*, with which to solace their disappointed friends, and shelter their own personal pride. The cause of this becomes obvious when we remember that the young men of the west are not *generally* possessed of those facilities for the acquirement of education which are so fully enjoyed by the inhabitants of the Atlantic States. They go to West Point barely qualified to pass their preparatory examination, and of course the greater part of *such persons are eventually found deficient*. Some of these persons have returned to the west and become eminent professional men; but the wound which was given to their vanity has never been healed. It is a source of perpetual chagrin; and now that they have risen to some consideration, they like to gratify their wounded feelings by injuring the Institution which rejected them. Ask those, who object to the Military Academy, what they have to say to its discredit, and they will perhaps tell you that it is a nursery of *aristocracy*, or an instrument of *favoritism*! To refute this I have only to say that men who were *poor* and almost *friendless*, have received the highest distinctions in the power of the institution to bestow; while the sons of some of the *great men* of the nation were dismissed and rejected.

The truth is, that the mass of persons who oppose the Academy, are actuated either by some *private pique*, or a desire to make it a *monster*, which they may immortalize themselves in subduing.

V.

## EXPLORING EXPEDITION.

MR. EDITOR:—Various plans having been suggested by some out of, as well as by those in authority, for relieving the nation of its onerous surplus revenue, already amounting to more than twenty millions of dollars. I beg leave through the medium of your paper to call the attention of the Secretary of the Navy, and through him that of the Representatives of the nation in Congress assembled, to an object of great commercial importance, one in which the whole nation is deeply interested, and one upon which there can be no constitutional scruples entertained in any quarter;

I mean the long talked of expedition for the exploration of the great north and south Pacific Oceans. The fund of information already possessed by the Navy Department and by Congress, (through innumerable petitions and memorials, which have for several years past been pouring in from almost every section of the union, setting forth the frequency of shipwrecks—scarcely less frequent massacre of the crews, after having escaped a watery grave, by barbarous natives inhabiting many of the unknown islands of the great south sea-islands either not known at all, or so erroneously laid down on the best charts which are themselves so imperfect as to baffle the skill of the most vigilant and experienced navigator, whose object is trade, or the pursuit of the Leviathan of the deep,) is too ample, to require another word to be said or written upon the subject.

I feel assured, having had the best opportunity of judging, that no disposition, to the same amount, of public treasure, could be bestowed on so beneficial and at the same time so popular a measure as the one above adverted to. One hundred thousand dollars for the first year, (say 1836) and fifty thousand per annum for the two succeeding years, would enable the Navy Department to fit out and employ for three years, an expedition which would not only be highly creditable to our common country, but would bring back a stock of information replete with interest to the navigator and the scientific world, and would open new and wide fields for commercial enterprise; and lastly, though perhaps not the least important result, would be the means of introducing civilization, and of planting christianity in the hearts of countless thousands of idolatrous cannibals, inhabiting many of the islands, which so thickly studded the great Equatorial sea, extending from the west coast of America to the eastern shores of Asia; a region which it may be said almost belongs to our intrepid countrymen engaged in the south sea whale fishery, who certainly have a right to claim of the government, protection against land as well as sea pirates, in this remote, and for other purposes unfrequented ocean.

A NAVIGATOR.

### Domestic Miscellany.

Extract from the Message of Governor Tazewell, to the Legislature of Virginia.

"An incident has occurred of late, in the administration of justice and in the due execution of the laws of this Commonwealth, to which, as it may become of much importance hereafter, I think it necessary to call your attention, at this time. A few weeks since, I received a report from the Sheriff of the county of Norfolk, informing me, that he had been forcibly prevented from performing his duty, by one of the naval commanders of the United States. Upon the receipt of this information, I forthwith transmitted a copy of the letter of the Sheriff to the President of the United States. The only reply to this letter I have yet received, is contained in the one from the Secretary of the Navy of the United States. I send herewith copies of the letter of the Sheriff of Norfolk to me, of my letter to the President, and of that of the Secretary to the Navy to me. These documents will enable you to see the merits of the whole case, so far as the rights and character of this Commonwealth are involved in it.

In making the communication I did to the President of the United States, I had no other purpose, than to bring to his knowledge, distinctly and in the most authentic form, what was represented to me by one of the sworn officers of this government: I thought, and I still think, that neither the laws nor the policy of the United States, could countenance the idea, that the powers of the Federal Government were equal to abolish or render null the relations between debtor and creditor, so far only as its particular officers, whether civil or military, may be concerned; or to convert one of their vessels, either armed or unarmed, into an asylum for the protection of those who may be unwilling to satisfy engagements previously contracted with their fellow citizens. Nor had I any doubt, that the discipline of the naval service must be highly offended, by the use of the intemperate language, and the exertion of such power, as was practised upon this occasion towards one of the most responsible officers known to the laws of this and of every other State in our Confederacy. Therefore, I thought it to be my duty, to bring such acts directly under the observation of the

magistrate charged with the preservation of this discipline, and with the execution of these laws; leaving it to him to decide upon the course he might think proper to adopt under such circumstances.

I had no idea, however, of referring even to this high magistrate, or to any other forum than those of this Commonwealth itself, to decide what was due to the offended majesty of her laws, or what punishments should be awarded against any who may outrage her peace and dignity. Therefore, I forthwith directed the proper legal proceedings to be instituted against the offender, in our own courts; and an indictment preferred against him by the Attorney of the Commonwealth, has been returned by the Grand Jury as "a true bill." His departure from the Commonwealth may possibly have prevented the necessary process from being served upon him, as yet. But it will be continued again and again, even to the last extremity, until it has produced its effect; unless the most satisfactory reparation is made for the wrong done. To a community like this, the members of which have been reared in habitual reverence of law, noting is so odious as to witness the contempt of that which they have been taught to venerate, and when such contempt is manifested by those who derive their whole authority from the law, there is always hazard that such examples may be followed by others differently situated. But civil liberty must cease to exist, whenever any man or body of men, whether clothed with civil or military authority, or without authority of any kind, is suffered to violate the law with impunity.

The facts of this case induce me to recommend to you a revision of the Statutes, applicable to it, and to suggest the propriety of providing by law, that the commander of any armed vessel of the United States, who, after being duly notified by a creditor, that his debtor is onboard such vessel, shall remove such debtor from out this Commonwealth, shall for so doing be held personally liable for the amount of such debt. I recommend to you, also, to authorize the proper officers of the law, upon due proof made before them, that a misdemeanor has been committed, by any one about to depart from the Commonwealth, to award a *capias* at once against such offender. The statutes upon this subject, now in force, will not be found to authorize any such prompt proceedings, although, in many cases, it is obviously necessary."

— The following Correspondence was among the documents communicated by the Governor at the opening of the Legislature, to which he makes allusion in his Message. As Commodore Dallas is not now in the country, it is but sheer justice that public opinion on his conduct should be suspended, until he is in a situation to meet the serious charge here preferred against him.—*Norfolk Herald.*

### CORRESPONDENCE.

NORFOLK COUNTY, Oct. 4, 1835.

RESPECTED SIR—I feel it my duty to communicate to you an interference on the part of Captain Dallas, (who 'tis said is the commander of the ship Constellation, now ready for sea,) so that I was prevented by him from executing a writ from our court, put into my hands, commanding me to take into custody, &c. a man by the name of Turner, then on board the ship Constellation aforesaid. And in order to discharge my duty, (as sheriff of the county,) I proceeded to the ship, saw the captain or *commodore*, and inquired of him if he had a man on board by the name of Turner? He replied, hesitatingly, I don't know—but almost with the same breath, said yes, and inquired my business with him. I told him I had a process against him. He then said—What is it?—I told him a writ for debt. He then said, he is an honorable man, and will pay his debts—take him—but you know, or know you, that you have no authority to do so. I replied, I do not know that, sir. He then said, he could convince me I had no authority, &c.—To which I replied, he could not convince me, &c. He then said I was ignorant of my duty. I told him it was to be presumed I had some knowledge of the laws of my state under which I acted. He then said, *damn the (or your) state laws*—we are not governed by the state laws, but by the laws of the United States. I told him I thought I had some knowledge also of the United States laws. He then said I'll be damned now if you shall take him—Get out of the ship—men, take this man out of the ship. Seeing that I could not take a man of war, nor execute the process, I got out of the ship as readily as convenient, sur-

rounded by some eight or ten or more "men," in uniform, ready, seemingly to obey their captain. So soon as I was on shore, I made the conduct of the captain generally known, and was advised by some to communicate the matter to you immediately, and I am sorry that I did not instantly do so; but I deferred, thinking some law might be found to reach him more speedily. It is the principle of the thing that mostly prompts me to write you now, in order that the like or more dangerous acts of the kind may be guarded against, as well as also the punishment of this man as the case calls for. If I have made too much of this matter, your knowledge of men and things will pardon the offence.

From the highest considerations,

I am, sir, your very obedient servant,

WM. B. MANNING, Sheriff,  
Norfolk County.

To his Excellency L. W. TAZEWELL, Esq.  
Governor of Virginia.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, {  
Richmond, Oct. 10, 1835.

SIR—I have the honor to enclose herewith a copy of a letter I have just received from the sheriff of the County of Norfolk, in this state. In transmitting this official report made to me by a respectable officer of our law, I do but perform what I consider is required of me as a duty to the United States. It belongs to you only to decide what is proper to be done under such circumstances as are represented in the inclosed documents; and I do not doubt that you will promptly adopt such a course in regard to this matter, as to your discretion shall seem best.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully,  
Your excellency's most ob't. servant,

LITT'N. W. TAZEWELL.  
To his Excellency ANDREW JACKSON,  
President of the United States.  
Washington.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, 15th Oct. 1835.

SIR.—The President has referred to this Department your letter to him of the 10th inst. enclosing one addressed to yourself by Wm. B. Manning, Sheriff of the County of Norfolk, in which he complains that he had been prevented by Com. Dallas from executing a writ upon a man by the name of Turner, on board the United States frigate Constellation, at the time ready for sea, and complaining also, of the manner in which he was treated by Com. Dallas.

By the 5th section of an act of Congress of the 11th July, 1798, entitled, "an act for the establishing and organizing a marine corps," it is enacted that "the non-commissioned officers, musicians, seamen and marines, who are, or shall be enlisted into the service of the United States, shall be, and they are hereby exempted during their term of service from all personal arrests for any debt or contract."

Under this section, midshipmen, as non-commissioned officers, have been considered as free from arrest. And in the case of Charles C. Russell, a midshipman, but acting as lieutenant, who was arrested at Norfolk for debt, nearly 20 years ago, escaped the effect of an arrest, by sheltering himself under this privilege as a midshipman, and stating, that although acting as a lieutenant, he was not commissioned as such.

Under the construction given to this section, no doubt Com. Dallas thought himself justified in preventing an arrest of a midshipman detailed for duty on board his ship, when about to sail for a station to which he had been ordered. I shall, however, without delay, call upon Com. Dallas, for an explanation of his interference in this case, and for the manner of his treatment of the Sheriff intrusted with the service of the process.

I am sorry that Sheriff Manning's statement to you had not been made sooner, so that an explanation might have been obtained from Com. Dallas before he sailed, and Midshipman Turner detached from the ship, if he was taking advantage of his situation to avoid the payment of a just debt, or to screen himself from process. Com. Dallas sailed two days before the date of your letter to the President.

I will not undertake to say at this time, that an improper construction has been given to this law, as it respects midshipmen—but if the right construction has been given, the law itself must be wrong. Midshipmen ought not be free from arrest for debt in time of

peace, except when on actual duty at sea—or when detailed for duty and on board a ship of war about to sail.

I have the honor to be, with great respect and esteem, your obedient servant,

MAHLON DICKERSON.

His Excellency L. W. TAZEWELL,  
Governor of the State of Virginia.

To the Editors of the N. Y. Mercantile Advertiser  
and Advocate.

GENTLEMEN.—I have just heard (through a friend) of a very gallant and heroic deed, performed by a young gentleman,\* during the late awful conflagration, and think it but justice to him, and indeed to our frail human nature, that it should be made known.

Passing along one of the streets, then a prey to the devouring element, his ears were assailed with the agonizing cries of a female, to whom he immediately rushed, and on hearing from her that her only child, an infant, was then in the upper part of a house already in flames, and would inevitably be burnt up, if some one did not instantly fly to its rescue, he forced his way up stairs, notwithstanding the repeated warnings of the firemen and other spectators, that he would inevitably perish in the attempt, and there found the innocent in bed, who, unconscious of its danger, was playing with its little hands, pleased no doubt at the brilliancy of the scene, (for the room itself was on fire!) He seized it, and happily succeeding in effecting his escape, restored it to the embraces of its almost distracted mother, who with frantic joy, threw her arms round his neck, exclaiming, with a heart overflowing with gratitude—"My God! my God! thou hast not forsaken me!"

As such heroism is always accompanied by modesty and by feelings overpowered by scenes like this, he made his escape from the applauding crowd, with as much precipitation as possible; but he will, I trust, long live to remember (and when called to his "account" find them true,) the words of one, exclaiming as he passed, "For that alone you have gained a place in heaven." No reward that could be offered to him on earth can equal the satisfaction that such a deed carries with it.

\* Mr. Louis Wilkins (son of Martin S. Wilkins), a midshipman, returned a few months since from the Pacific.

From the New York American.

STATUE OF HAMILTON.—With the exchange, was destroyed this fine statue, which the taste, liberality, and gratitude of the merchants had placed there. A remarkable effort, however, was made to rescue it. On hearing that the exchange was menaced, a young officer—whose name we did not learn—came over from the navy yard, with a party of four or five sailors, for the purpose of saving Hamilton's statue—and they had actually, we hear, succeeded in removing it from its base, when the imminent danger of the roof falling in upon them, compelled them to desist—and it was almost immediately buried up in the wide mass of ruins.

It were in vain to attempt, as yet, any thing like an accurate detail of this most devastating calamity. At an early hour, it was perceived that all ordinary efforts to check the fire were unavailing; and the Mayor—who was from the first moment on the spot, and active, and energetic, in giving directions—decided to attempt, by blowing up in the proper quarter, several large edifices, to put bounds to the torrent. Unhappily no powder was to be had within the limits of the city, whereupon the Mayor despatched a messenger to the Navy Yard, to ask the aid of Commodore Ridgely, in men, and especially powder—and another to the Commandant at Governor's Island, with the same mission. Both were promptly complied with. Lieut. Temple, of the U. S. A. returned with as little delay as possible, with a supply of powder from Governor's Island; and soon after Captain Mix, of the U. S. Navy, Lieut. Nicholas, with several junior officers, and a detachment of about 100 sailors and marines—the latter with their arms, to guard the property, with which the streets were strewn—reached the city, a barge being sent down at the same time to Red Hook for gunpowder, little or none being kept at the Navy Yard. On reporting themselves to the Mayor, those officers were directed, together with Gen. Joseph G. Swift and several citizens,

and accompanied by the Mayor, Ald. Smith, Benson, and others, to demolish buildings where there was a prospect of stopping the flames. This they had proceeded to execute, in a most masterly manner, with the greatest order and coolness, and in several instances, with decisive effect. The marines, meantime, were stationed along the principal streets, in which goods were strewed, and aided essentially in repressing the audacious robberies, which before were openly perpetrated.

The New-York American, in allusion to the Report of the Secretary of the Navy, says:

There is a branch of service for the navy which, hitherto, has been entirely neglected, and which yet might be advantageously resorted to; it is that of permanent cruisers along our coast, a *home station*. At present the harbor of Boston, or of New-York, Delaware or Chesapeake bay, might be insulted with impunity, by any single armed vessel—our revenue laws might be forcibly violated—or, our flag dishonored within sight of our chief cities, and yet, not a single ship of war is permanently afloat in these waters. There should always, in our judgment, be a ship or two in each of these harbors and roadsteads, or cruising along the coast, looking every few days into some port. By such a disposition of part of our naval force, discipline would be improved—the form, bearings, and soundings of the coast would become familiar to our officers, and respect would be insured to our laws and flag.

The suggestions for the better education of midshipmen, and for the enlisting apprentices, are both sound, and may, we hope, find favor. This is the accepted time, when money is abundant, and the world at peace, to train ourselves for a future day, when both money and peace may not be so easily commanded.

The recommendation of a National Observatory, since it is made under President Jackson's construction of the powers of the Constitution, will, we suppose, as we certainly desire that it may, succeed.

From the New York Times.

AMERICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MILITARY AND NAVAL EVENTS.—At a meeting held at the Mayor's Office, in New York, on Monday evening last, for the purpose of completing the organization and electing officers of said society, the following gentlemen were chosen for the ensuing year:

President.

Gen. MORGAN LEWIS.

Vice Presidents.

Col. JOHN TRUMBULL,

Gen. WINFIELD SCOTT,

WASHINGTON IRVING,

Col. CHARLES GRAHAM,

GEORGE D. STRONG, Esq.

Col. JAMES WATSON WEBB,

The MAYOR, *Ex Officio*.

Recording Secretaries.

Philip E. Milledoler, James T. Brady.

Corresponding Secretaries.

Hamilton Fish, John Stark.

Treasurer.

Abraham Lefoy.

Committee of Correspondence,

Thomas Hertell, Thomas Morris,  
James Fennimore Cooper, Capt. M. C. Perry,  
Charles A. Clinton, Col. Samuel L. Knapp,  
William Legget, Gen. Anthony Lamb,  
M. M. Noah, Barnabas Bates,  
Alexander Slidell, Darius Darling,

Dr. John Wolcott.

THE POLES IN AMERICA.—Late in April, 1834, the two Austrian frigates arrived from Trieste, and landed 243 Polanders in New York. Six or seven months ago, 37 arrived here in an Austrian corvette, and about 25 have come in different vessels from England. It is well known that pecuniary aid was given to many of them for a few weeks after their arrival by the citizens of New York and other places, and that the sufferings of some were, for a time severe, after the contributions ceased.

Congress granted them a township of land in Illinois on condition that each should acquire a title to his portion, after residing upon it ten years, and paying for it at the government price, \$1 20 an acre. About 60 have

gone to occupy the land, but as they had not the means necessary to begin a settlement, numbers of them are at present residing in some of the western towns. From information on which we can rely, we have received the following account of the Poles above mentioned, whose whole number amounted to 305.

About 70 now permanently reside in the city of N. York, and they are engaged in regular business of different kinds, by which they support themselves. It will be gratifying to the friends of Poland, (and they are many) to know that these unfortunate men, almost all of whom were unacquainted with any trade, early betook themselves to different kinds of business as apprentices, and are now enjoying a happy independence in a country whose freedom they highly appreciate. Ten are employed in one hatter's shop, and there are probably ten or fifteen others engaged at the same trade in other parts of the city. There are many jewellers and pocket book makers, a few shoemakers, a number of tailors, carpenters, blacksmiths, and printers. There is at least one teacher of languages, and one accomplished musician, who finds employment with the military, and is leader of a band, for which he has composed several marches. He was in a similar situation in his own country.

There are believed to be about 40 in Louisville, 10 in Vandalia, 20 in St. Louis, of whom 12 are employed as smiths, &c. in the arsenal, a few in Cincinnati, and 20 in New Orleans. In West Troy are 10 in the arsenal, 1 in Albany, 5 in Fishkill in a woolen manufactory, 5 in Lowell in a similar situation, a few in Boston in a chemical laboratory, and 2 are in Fredericksburg, Virginia. One is in the city of Mexico, an instructor, three have gone to Bogota as workmen in a hat manufactory established by one of our enterprising hatters, one is in Algiers, and one is employed as translator in the frigate Potomac.

But one of the most interesting cases we have heard of, is that of the Polish priest, who came with his wife in one of the frigates. He is of the Greek church, as the fact of his marriage would intimate, and having no resource after his arrival here, he learnt the shoe makers trade, and now works at it with good success and much skill, in Leonard street.—N. Y. Daily Adver.

#### TO MARINERS.

MOBILE, DEC. 2.—The light on Mobile Point has been changed. It is now a revolving light—revolving once in three minutes—showing a light and dark side alternately—once a minute. So says the notice from the superintendent.

Penscola light, it should be noted, is also a revolving light. Its revolutions are performed in ten minutes each, and it shews a light and dark side once in three minutes.

PILOTAGE IN CALCUTTA.—References having been made to the Marine Board, with a view to ascertain the position in which pilot vessels may be expected to be found at the different seasons of the year, the following is published for general information.

During the S. W. Monsoon, from the 15th of March to the 15th Sept. the pilot vessels cruise during the day off Point Palmyras, anchoring during the night in a line E. and W. in lat. 20 42, to 20 48 N. with the light on the point bearing W. to W. by S. If however, about the beginning of Sept. the wind comes from the S. or the weather assumes a threatening appearance, the pilot vessels haul off to the E. and may be found in a line between the light on the point and the floating light vessel.

From the 15th Sept. to the 15th March, the pilot vessels cruise during the day between Sangor Sand and Western Sea Reef, anchoring in the night East and West of each other, in lat. 21 to 21 10 North.

Vessels approaching the station, on seeing the pilot vessels are requested in the day to make for that vessel on board of which they will see a large red flag flying at the main, whenever they can do so without great inconvenience or delay. In the night the vessel having the next turn pilot on board is ordered to burn a maroon every hour, and in thick weather every half hour, and vessels are requested in like manner to seek their pilot in the night from that vessel; it being understood however that any pilot vessel which may be first seen is bound immediately to use every exertion to put a pilot on board, night or day, without refer-

ring to any turns or rotation, and that this latter is only allowed when no delay is occasioned thereby.

By order of the Marine Board,  
C. C. GREENLAW, Sec'y.

Fort William, July 6, 1835.

**ROCK IN THE CHINA SEAS.**—The American Consul at St. Helena writes Oct. 17, that bark Atwick, of London, on the 2d of May, struck on a reef in the China Seas, on her passage from Canton to London, when 18 days out. She was 8 1-2 hours upon it, and was obliged to put into Singapore, and discharge.—The reef was in N. lat. 2° 17' 47"; the centre of Haycock Island bore W. 2° 1-2 degrees N; the centre of an island S. 15 degrees W.; East entrance of South Natunas N. 2° 1-2 degrees W. to N. 49 degrees W. The reef was about the length of cable; the least water on it was 8 feet, and there was 16 fathoms close to it.

#### REVOLUTIONARY ARMY.

The following is from an original paper published 4th of August, 1774, signed Jonathan McKesson, Clerk, which we publish on account of its antiquity as well as for the gratification and benefit of the descendants of those *Heroes of the Revolution*, who first volunteered their services in their country's cause:—

*State of the four Regiments raised in the Colony of New-York, for the Continental Service, and the order of their rank.*

#### FIRST REGIMENT.

Alexander M'Dougall, Colonel; Rudolphus Ritzenma, Lieut. Colonel; Herman Zedwitz, Major; John Brodgon, Adjutant; Israel Evans, Chaplain; William Tap, Quarter Master.

1st Company—Frederick V. Weisensels, Captain John A. M'Dougall, 1st Lieutenant; Richard Platt 2d do.—2d Company—Marinus Willet, Captain; Wm. Gilleland, 1st Lieutenant; Leonard Blecker, 2d do. 3d Company—John Johnson, Captain; Wm. Brown, 1st Lieutenant; Abraham E. Brasher, 2d do. 4th Company—William Gosarth, Captain; James W. Payne, 1st Lieutenant; Randolph S. M'Dougall, 2d do. 5th Company—Jacob Cheetham, Captain; Aaron Austin, 1st Lieutenant; John Houston, 2d do. 6th Company—Richard Varick, Captain; John Copp, 1st Lieutenant; Daniel Gano, 2d do. 7th Company—Gershom Mott, Captain; Benjamin Pelton, 1st Lieutenant; Timothy Hughes, 2d do. 8th Company—John Quackenbush, Captain; John Pearcey, 1st Lieutenant; Garret Van Wagenen, 2d do. 9th Company—Benjamin Ledger, Captain; Digby Odulum, 1st Lieutenant; James M. Hughes, 2d do. 10th Company—David Lyon, Captain; Matthias Clarke, 1st Lieutenant; John Beekman, 2d do. John L. Lynn, Surgeon; Hunlock Woodruff, 1st Mate.

#### SECOND REGIMENT.

Goose Van Schaick, Colonel; Peter Yates, Lieutenant Colonel; Peter Gansevoort, Jun. Major; Henry Van Woerdt, Quarter Master; John Tillman, Adjutant.

1st Company—John Fisher, Captain; Benjamin Evans, 1st Lieutenant; Joseph Finch, 2d do. 2d Company—Cornelius Van Dyck, Captain; Cornelius Van Slyck, 1st Lieutenant; Guy Young, 2d do. 3d Company—Barent I. Ten Eyck, Captain; Dirck Hansen, 1st Lieutenant; John G. Lansing, 2d do. 4th Company—John Fry, Captain; Anthony Van Veghten, 1st Lieutenant; Matthew Warwood, 2d do. 5th Company—George White, Captain; Jervis Mudge, 1st Lieutenant; Eleazar Grant, 2d do. 6th Company—Hezekiah Baldwin, Captain; Nathaniel Rowley, 1st Lieutenant; Rosewell Beebe, 2d do. 7th Company—Joseph McCracken, Captain; Moses Martin, 1st Lieutenant; John Barns, 2d do. 8th Company—Elisha Benedict, Captain; Wm. McCune, 1st Lieutenant; Alexander Brink, 2d do. 9th Company—John Graham, Captain; Gideon King, 1st Lieutenant; Nicholas Van Rensselaer, 2d do. 10th Company—Joel Pratt, Captain; Benjamin Chittenden, 1st Lieutenant; Israel Spencer, 2d do. Stephen M'Crea, Surgeon.

#### THIRD REGIMENT.

James Clinton, Colonel; Cornelius D. Wynkoop, Lieut. Colonel; Henry Livingston, jun. Major; George Sloffer, Adjutant; James Hamilton, Quarter-Master.

1st Company—Daniel Griffin, Captain; Benjamin Marvin, 1st Lieutenant; Nathaniel Norton, 2d do. 2d

Company—John Nicholson, Captain; David Dubois, 1st Lieutenant; James Gregg, 2d do. 3d Company—John Hulbert, Captain; Jn. Davis, 1st Lieut.; Wm. Havens, 2d do. 4th Company—Lewis Dubois, Captain; Elias Van Buntschoten, jun. 1st Lieutenant; Andrew T. Lawrence, 2d do. 5th Company—John Greenell, Captain; Alexander Ketcham, 1st Lieutenant; Samuel Smith, 2d do. 6th Company—Andrew Billings, Captain; Ezekiel Cooper, 1st Lieutenant; John Langdon, 2d do. 7th Company—Jacobus Bruyn, Captain; Thomas De Witt, 1st Lieutenant; Albert Pawling, 2d do. 8th Company—Daniel Denton, Captain; Balthazar Dehart, 1st Lieutenant; George Hamilton Jackson, 2d do. 9th Company—Elias Hashronck, Captain; Cornelius T. Jansen, 1st Lieutenant; Petrus Roggen, 2d do. 10th Company—Robert Johnson, Captain; Marinus Goetschius, 1st Lieutenant; Phillip Dubois Bevier, 2d do; Samuel Cooke, Surgeon.

#### FOURTH REGIMENT.

James Holmes, Colonel; Philip Van Cortlandt, Lieut. Col.; Barnabas Tuthill, Major; Job Mulford, Adjutant; Benjamin Chapman, Quarter-master.

1st Company—Henry B. Livingston, Captain; Jacob Thomas, 1st Lieut.; Isaac Paddock, 2d do. 2d Company—Joseph Benedict, Captain; Samuel Sacket, 1st Lieut.; Gould Bouton, 2d do. 3d Company—Nathaniel Woodward, Captain; Abraham Riker, 1st Lieut.; John Lawrence, 2d do. 4th Company—Rufus Herrick, Captain; Charles Graham, 1st Lieut.; Jesse Thompson, 2d do. 5th Company—Ambrose Horton, Captain; Sam. T. Pell, 1st Lieut.; Isaac Van Wert, 2d do. 6th Company—Daniel Mills, Captain; Elijah Hunter, 1st Lieut.; Miles Oakley, 2d do. 7th Company—Jonathan Platt, Captain; David Dan, 1st Lieut.; Manning Bull, 2d do. 8th Company—Jacobus Wynkoop, Captain; Anthony Welph, 1st Lieut.; Thomas Lefoy, 2d do. 9th Company—Jacobus Rosceraus, Captain; Samuel Van Veghten, 1st Lieut.; Thomas Lee, 2d do. 10th Company—David Palmer, Captain; William Crane, 1st Lieut.; William Matthewman, 2d do.; Ebenezer Haviland, Surgeon.

#### ARMY.

*Changes in the stations of Assistant Surgeons.*  
Dr. Heiskell to repair from Florida to Savannah, and relieve Dr. Birdsall.

Dr. Birdsall, when relieved, will repair to Fort Townson.

At the expiration of his leave of absence, Dr. Myers will proceed to Fort Macon and report for duty.

Dr. Leavenworth, now at New Orleans, on being relieved by Dr. Randall, will proceed to Fort Jesup.

#### NAVY.

The U. S. Ship Warren, Captain Taylor, 33 hours from Newcastle, bound to Norfolk, anchored in Hampton Roads on Friday last.

#### NAVAL MEDICAL BOARD OF EXAMINATION.

Dr. J. A. Kearney, President.

Drs. B. Washington, Thos. Williamson, M. Morgan, and T. Dillard, members.

The Board will meet in Washington, on Monday, the 18th January, for the examination of assistant surgeons for promotion, and of candidates for admission into the service.

#### MARRIAGE.

In New York, on the 14th inst., Captain HENRY VAN DALSEM, formerly of the U. S. Army, to MARIA, daughter of WILLIAM SANFORD, Esq.,

#### DEATHS.

In Washington on the 20th inst., CHAUNCEY PAYNE, infant son of Major JOHN GARLAND, of the army.

In Philadelphia, on the 14th inst., after a short illness, LOUISA, daughter of ROBERT KENNEDY, Esq., Navy store-keeper, at that place, aged 13 years and 4 months.

In New Ipswich, N. H., 24th ult., Capt. EBENEZER CLARK, a revolutionary soldier, formerly of Braintree, Ms., 82. He served in the Life Guards of Washington, in the war of the revolution and was a pensioner at the time of his death. He has left seven children, 62 grand children, and 43 great grand children. When on duty

one night, Capt. C. discovered a man sitting on the fence a short distance from him. He hailed, but instead of giving the countersign the man ran. Capt. C. fired, and lodged the ball in the rail the man had just left. The report of the musket aroused Washington, who raised the window to inquire the cause of the alarm. On examining a field of rye next morning, they were convinced beyond a doubt that a large body of the enemy had been there the night previous, evidently with the design of firing the house or capturing the General.

At West Sandwich, Mass.: on the 7th inst., SYLVANUS GIBBS, aged 86 years—patriot of the revolution, and a firm defender of his country in that day of alarm and peril.

In Leominster, Mass.: Mr. NATHAN COLBURN, 96, a patriot of the revolution.

At his residence near the Court House in Currituck County, (N. C.,) on Saturday the 7th of November, Col. JOHN WILLIAMS, in the 85th year of his age, leaving behind him on the journey of time the wife of his eventful youth—the widowed partner of sixty-three years of his life, to pursue, unheeded by him she long had cherished, what remains to her of an earthly existence, and a family of children, to the fourth generation, to mourn the patriarch gone. He was a native of Princess Anne County, (Va.) and being, at the commencement of the revolution, in the full tide of vigorous manhood, and ardently devoted to his country's cause, and surrounded, too, by many of the disaffected, he, with others of his associates, pursued for a time a course of irregular warfare, and was alternately pursuing, or being hunted down by the assassin foe, until at length, seeking a place of comparative security from the relentless horde for what, to him, was dearer far than life, he took with him his wife and what little might be conveyed in a small canoe, abandoning all else to the mercy of his pursuers, crossed to this county, and subsequently joining the regular army, bared his breast to the storm of strife, and when the tug of war was over, and the liberty of his country established, he returned to the bosom of his family, plied again his peaceful avocation, and lived to witness the gratitude and partake the bounty of the country he had loved and served.

H.

#### NAVAL MEDICAL BOARD.

A Board of Naval Surgeons will assemble in this city, on the 18th January next, in pursuance of an order from the Honorable the Secretary of the Navy. Assistant Surgeons to be passed for promotion, and candidates who have permission from the Navy Department to present themselves for admission into the service, will please report themselves immediately on their arrival.

JNO. A. KEARNEY,  
President of the Naval Medical Board.

#### ARMY AND NAVY CHRONICLE.

##### NEW SERIES.

The marked preference which has been manifested for a weekly publication, over a monthly one—the advantage possessed by the former for disseminating information at shorter intervals—the uncertain dependence to be placed upon voluntary contributions—and the inadequacy of the support that can be obtained for two publications, similar in their design—have induced the subscriber to unite the MILITARY AND NAVAL MAGAZINE and the ARMY AND NAVY CHRONICLE.

The former work will be continued to the close of the present volume, February, 1836; and on the first Thursday in January, the *Army and Navy Chronicle* will be issued on a fine super royal sheet, in the octavo form, with an entirely new breviary type, making two volumes of 416 pages each per year. The octavo form is adopted, in lieu of the quarto, in consequence of its greater facility of transportation and more convenient size for binding. A copious index and handsome title page will accompany each volume.

The Army and Navy Chronicle will contain original and selected articles upon every subject pertaining to the two services; and, as collateral, will embrace the Militia and Revenue cutter service.

Subscription five dollars a year, payable in advance.—Orders must be post paid and accompanied with the money. Remittances may be made at the risk of the publisher, and those of ten dollars or more, at his expense. Five copies will be furnished for twenty dollars.

B. HÖMANS, *Editor and Publisher.*  
Washington, Dec. 24.

#### ADVERTISING.

As the Army and Navy Chronicle has a general circulation in both services, and an increasing one among citizens, it presents a favourable medium for advertisements, which will be inserted upon reasonable terms.

Once a month at least, and oftener if the encouragement be adequate, a colored cover will be furnished. Advertisements of professional works,—mathematical, nautical and surveying instruments—officers clothing and equipments,—sea stores,—and all articles that may be useful to the soldier or sailor are respectfully solicited.

